

Arlington Council on Aging

Meeting Minutes January 19, 2017

Present: Noreen Murphy, Paul Raia, Dick Phelps, Jill Greenlee, Rick Fenton, Ann Fitzgerald, Jim Munsey, and Marge Vanderhill. **Absent:** Mara Klein Collins
Associate member present: Bob Tosi and Karen Nichols

I. Call to order: The regular meeting of the Council on Aging Board was called to order by Jim Munsey (covering for Mara) at 6:00PM on January 19, 2017, at 27 Maple Street, Arlington, MA.

Citizen's Open Forum: Art Budnick, Shine counselor, reported on a CMS alert regarding Medicare eligibility and Special Enrollment Period to enroll in Part B. He said this alert should be passed on to seniors over 65.

II. Old Business:

A. FY 2018 budget submission: The social worker position will gain fourteen hours per week for a total of 28 hours. A fulltime nurse is still needed.

B. Feasibility Study: Jim reporting. Sidewalk repairs are in the budget and 150 new chairs are needed.

C. Age Friendly Community: Susan reporting

1. The application process should be done by the end of January 2017.

It will include a letter from the Town Manager. The implementation of the goals will take one to three years to complete.

2. Paul and Jill reiterated the necessity of an intergenerational approach within Arlington.

D. Minuteman Senior Services:

1. Mara gave a brief summary of the COA presentation to the Executive Board on January 4, 2017. See Appendix A.

2. Budget cuts may be in the offing and there is concern the "Shine" program may be eliminated. Arlington has three counselors.

E. Report of the Selectmen: Joe Curro reporting

1. BOS will support warrant articles.

2. The Town Manager will present the articles on Senior real estate exemptions at the January 23, 2017, BOS meeting. Board members are encouraged to attend.

3. Human Rights Commission embraces cultural differences and diversity.

III. Report of the Chair: See Appendix A

IV. Executive Directors Report: See Appendix B.

V. Friends of COA: Christine Bongiorno and Susan reported on the ongoing problem of the continuing lack of response between the Friends, the ED and the COA Board. They will continue to follow up.

VI. Minutes of the December 15, 2016, were moved by Noreen and approved.

VII. New Business:

A. New Savoyan Request by the ED to create a “Social Program Fund” to cover programs previously funded by the Friends of Arlington COA. The amount of \$5750.00 was moved by Noreen and seconded by Jim and Jill. Approval was unanimous. All board members signed the request to speed along the approval process.

B. It was moved and approved that any vote needing a quorum will be introduced earlier in the meeting.

VIII. Other Business:

A. Paul reported that he had attended Memory Café at Brightview. He was impressed with their generosity and hospitality to the program. Brightview underwrites 95% of the costs. Bob Tosi also attended.

B. Paul reported that a consulting company now owns Park Avenue Nursing Home and may be interested in supporting COA programs for seniors. The PR would be good for their business.

C. Ann attended the Bridges Together Intergenerational program which met at the library for eight weeks. The 18 Dallin students were “bright and polite” and she enjoyed the experience.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.